

The Black Box Update

The Insiders Guide to Clandestine Technology
Volume 1

Number 1

*copy as
promised*

The Black Box Update

Thanks to your support, you are reading what we hope will become a regular publication, The Black Box Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with a single source where you can get the latest information about products and issues that concern you.

As a customer of the Black Box Solution, you will receive this newsletter free of charge each time it is published for the next twelve months. If you do not wish to receive this publication, please let me know so I can remove your name from our mailing list.

Your support and faith keep us going. We do listen to you and want to hear your ideas. If you want something published in this newsletter, send it to me, and if it is relevant I'll print it.

Bill Myers

UPDATES

The last two pages of this newsletter contain the latest enhancements to the original Black Box. These updates are intended to provide more stability to the video performance of the product, and to correct a few typo errors.

I have also included a photo of a populated circuit board showing all the components in place.

Criminal Investigations

Many people have wondered if what we are doing is legal. We have been advised by the Justice Department, the FCC, the FBI, and the Deputy Federal Prosecutor in our district that what we are doing is perfectly legal under current laws.

However, it seems that these same agencies are investigating the alliance of M/A-COM, HBO, and the Cable operators and the resulting possible violation of numerous Federal Laws including anti-trust and unfair trade practices.

AUDIO

I know that most of you are wondering when the digital audio will be available from us. We have seen several different approaches to solving audio, and are currently building up three different models to see if they will work as promised, and if the parts required to build them are readily available.

I have also spoken to two different manufacturers who have plans to market a completed audio unit in the near future. Both have assured me that their units will be compatible with the Black Box Solution.

You may see audio plans from several companies before we release ours, but you can be sure that when we do release ours, it will work right.

In any event, all current customers are on a priority mailing list, and you will be notified as soon as the audio is ready.

Good News

The Nostalgia Channel (F4 21) has announced that they will not scramble their signal, but will seek viewer support for their service. We are happy to hear this, and want to thank them for their fair decision.

More Good News

American Ecstasy has announced plans to offer HDO (Home Dish Owners) a station that will offer prime movies to the home satellite market. They are saying you will need their de-coder to pick up this service. Maybe we will, and maybe we won't.

Las Vegas 1986

If you attended the STTI show in Las Vegas, you may have seen our booth. Geographically speaking, it was as far away from the M/A-COM booth as it could possibly be and still be in the same building!

Funny, though, the folks from M/A-COM spent quite a bit of time at our booth looking at our product. They even ended up buying two copies of the book. We sure appreciate their business!

The rumors about M/A-COM having us arrested were not true, although they did threaten to do so. One M/A-COM representative even told us he was a FBI agent and warned us to leave or he would have us arrested. This jerk whipped out his fancy M/A-COM badge, and continued to harass us, entertaining both us and the crowd for some time with his wild ravings.

We heard an interesting discussion near our booth between M/A-COM and HBO concerning the ability of our box to descramble a signal that was supposedly "impossible" to descramble. HBO wondered why should they go to the trouble and expense to scramble their signal at all, if it was so easy to descramble. Interesting thought.

T-Shirts

If you were at the Las Vegas Show, or if you watch some of the Satellite shows, you may have seen someone wearing a Black Box Solution T-Shirt.

We're not in the T-Shirt business, but if you want one of these shirts, call us and we will send you one for \$10.00. That's kind of high for a T-Shirt, but if you want one, we've got 'em.

BoreSight News

Most of you know about BoreSight News, but if you don't, it's a weekly Satellite News show found on Spacenet 1, at 8:00 P.M. Central Time.

Their show is probably the best produced and consistently entertaining source for satellite related news on the air. Its worth a watch.

Nuts & Volts

If you are at all interested in descramblers, electronics, computers, or technology, you owe it to yourself to get a copy of, or to subscribe to Nuts & Volts. This monthly publication in a buy-sell-trade format has ads for all kinds of electronic products including fully assembled descramblers.

The yearly subscription cost is a bargain at \$10.00. For more information, call them at 1-714-632-7721.

Chip News

If you have been wondering about the very latest in single chip decoders check out the MC 1374, MC 1378, & the MC-1377.

This IC is "Ideally suited as an output device for T.V decoders.... economical, high quality....Performance virtually equal to high cost studio equipment."

These are the hottest little chips out there. If you are developing items in this area, be sure to get the latest application notes from Motorola.

Information Wanted

I'm working on a project that requires me to use a material that does not reflect microwave signals but absorbs them instead. If you have any information on this subject, or can give me some ideas where I can find a material such as this, please let me know.

Black Box Update

Published by Black Box Solution,
4014 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71913
1-501-321-1845.

We invite you to send any articles, letters, or ideas for possible publication. Thanks for your support.

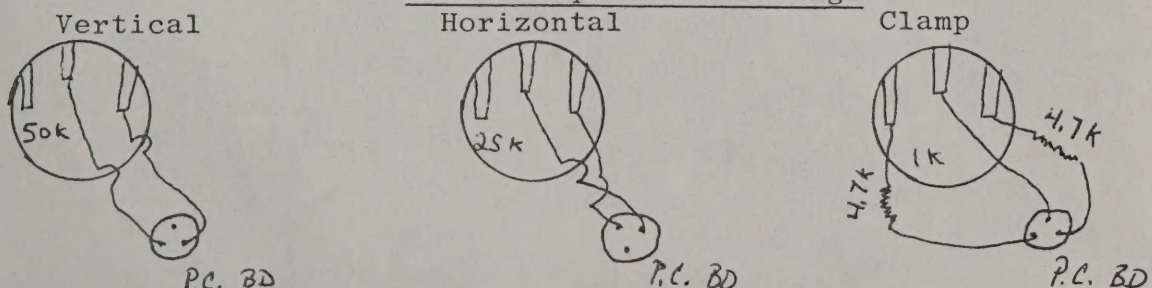
Updates

Page #

Nature of Revision

- 26 On Drawing # 8, use of a 220 pf disc cap in place of the 500 pf disc cap will provide superior performance.
- 27
- | Part # | ECG Cross Reference | USE |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| LM 733 | ECG 927 D | IC 1, IC 5, IC 10 |
| MC 1398 | ECG 738 | IC 9 |
| CD 4053 | ECG 4053 D | IC 4, IC 6 |
| MM 5321 | ECG 2045 | IC 27, IC 28 |
- Item # 16 is a zenor diode (5.1 V 5% 500 mw).
- 27 Items 18 thru 22 are shown with the Digi-Key Part number.
- 28 Item 43 is a electrolythic cap, use solid tantalum.
- Items 44 thru 47 are electrolythic caps.
- Items 48 & 49 are Silver Mica-Cde capacitors.
- Item 53 should be 2, 220 pf / 100 volt disc cap.
- Items 54 thru 56 are polyester film capacitors. Their respective Digi-Key Part Numbers are P-4557, P-4559, P-4551.
- Item 63 is 3.579545 Xtal and Holder.
- Item 66 should be 10, 16 Pin IC Sockets.
- Also, you need 2 .25 watt resistors, 4.7 meg ohm.
- 30 Item 12 is a 1K pot Linear Taper, and the other 2 pots are also Linear Taper.
- 31 A good source for all parts - Bag of Parts - 1-201-324-2816.
- 32 Before you begin assembly, please note that if you use the printed circuit board (BBS 021) you will find that assembly is much easier and the finished product much more reliable.
34. In step 18, the .01 cap referred to is really a .001 cap.
34. Don't be alarmed if some holes are left unfilled. Provisions have been allowed for future audio enhancements.
45. Use Linear Taper pots.
1. Install 1K pot with 4.7k soldered on right and left terminals.
 2. Install 25K pot on front panel and label "Horizontal"
 5. Delete this procedure.

Linear Taper Pot Drawings



10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

BBS-021

